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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 3754

Atty. Docket: 8266-0823

Applicants: Eckstein et al.

Invention: HYDRAULIC CONTROL
APPARATUS FOR A
HOSPITAL BED

Serial No.: 10/085,966

Filed: February 28, 2002

Examiner: Keasel, E

Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first
class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box AF,
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on April 23, 2003

D. Cwiklinski

Dated: April 23, 2003

RESPONSE

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 6, 2002, please consider the amendments and remarks found herein. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a version of the claims as amended is submitted herein, and a marked up version showing the amendments to the claims is submitted contemporaneously herewith as ATTACHMENT A.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 21 and 40 to read as follows.

21. (Twice Amended) A valve assembly for a hospital bed including:
a manifold block having an inlet, an outlet configured to connect to a device
for positioning the bed, and a conduit in fluid communication with the inlet and with
the outlet;

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